

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

Claims 12-19 were pending in this application. In this Amendment, Applicant has not amended, canceled, or added any claims. Accordingly, claims 12-19 will still be pending upon entry of this Amendment.

In the Office Action mailed July 16, 2007, the Examiner objected to the Abstract because it contained more than one paragraph. Applicant has amended the Abstract to a single paragraph within the range of 50 to 150 words and respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection.

In the Office Action, the Examiner also rejected claims 12-15 and 17-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,785,960 to Rigg et al. ("Rigg"). The Examiner also allowed claim 16.

Applicant acknowledges with thanks the Examiner's allowance of claim 16 and, accordingly, has left claim 16 in its previous form without amendment. Regarding the remaining rejected claims 12-15 and 17-19, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

Applicant's representative wishes to thank Examiner Patel for the courtesies extended during the telephonic interview conducted January 2, 2008. The substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

As explained in the interview, claims 12-15 and 17-19 each recite a feature of pigment deposition that is neither taught nor suggested by Rigg. The present invention highlights the surface color of skin to emphasize a contour of a body part (e.g., the face) by varying the degree of pigment deposition in different areas of the skin. (See, e.g., page 4, line 6 to page 5, line 8 of

the present specification.) The pigment deposition can be varied, for example, by varying the light irradiating the skin (claims 12 and 13), by applying a pigment deposition promoting agent to an area of the skin (claims 14 and 18), by applying a whitening agent to an area of the skin (claims 15 and 19), or by passing the light irradiating the skin through a filter (claim 17). The present invention therefore allows a user to emphasize a contour of the body part by changing the color of the skin itself (*i.e.*, inducing a “suntan”), thereby obviating the need to apply cosmetics, such as foundation.

In contrast to pigment deposition, and as agreed in the interview, Rigg merely teaches a device that illuminates skin for the purpose of measuring a customer's skin characteristics, such as skin coloration. (Column 3, lines 6-16.) Rigg discloses a spectrophotometer/colorimeter having a light source, which is used for emitting light when a customer's skin coloration is measured by the spectrophotometer/colorimeter. (Column 3, lines 50-65.) That light source, however, does not promote pigment deposition to the skin. Indeed, Rigg specifically describes the light source as a visible light source (column 3, lines 11 and 54), which, as one of ordinary skill in the art would appreciate, does not promote pigment deposition. Therefore, Rigg fails to teach or suggest the present invention's emphasizing of a contour of a body part by pigment deposition.

As agreed in the interview, the pigment deposition features recited in currently pending claims 12-15 and 17-19 distinguish the present invention over Rigg. Applicant therefore respectfully requests withdrawal of the § 102 rejection.

In view of the foregoing all of the claims in this case are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or determine that any further action is

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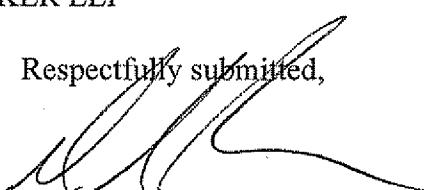
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desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone Applicant's undersigned representative at the number listed below.

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